

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is a response to applicant's amendment filed 08/29/2008. In virtue of this amendment, claims 1-12, 17, 19 and 22 are canceled; thus, claims 13-16, 18, 20-21 and 23-24 are currently in the instant application.

Interview Summary

2. Examiner contacted applicant's representative, James F. Goedken (Registration No. 44,715), on 10/30/2008 for discussing about a clarification for claims 13 and 18 in order to place the application in condition for allowance. Applicant's representative agreed to authorize examiner to clarify claims 13 and 18 in Examiner's amendment (i.e., claim 13, lines 6-7, delete "that can be rotated on pivots running parallel to one another"; insert - -, and the antenna element are rotatable on the pivots which are parallel to each other- -; claim 18, line 2, change "and" to - -are- -).

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with James F. Goedken on 10/30/2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 13, lines 6-7, delete "that can be rotated on pivots running parallel to one another" and insert - -, and the antenna element are rotatable on the pivots which are parallel to each other- -.

Claim 18, line 2, after "antenna elements", change "and" to - -are- -.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 13-16, 18 20-21 and 23-24 are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Prior art fails to disclose or fairly suggest an antenna arrangement comprising an array of electrically conductive antenna elements arranged on a carrier and a control device, wherein antenna elements are formed and mounted in such a way that said antenna elements are movable between a first position, in which an electrical contact to at least one adjacent antenna element is made, and a second position, in which there is an electrical decoupling from the adjacent antenna element, wherein the antenna elements are formed as rectangular laminae that can be rotated on pivots running parallel to one another at least one RF contact provided for at least one of the antenna elements, in combination with the remaining limitations as in claim 13 (claims 14-16, 18, 20-21 and 23-24 are allowed since they are dependent on claim 13).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Inquiry

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DIEU HIEN T. DUONG whose telephone number is (571)272-8980. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, from 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Douglas W. Owens can be reached on 571-272-1662. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/Trinh Vo Dinh/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2821